

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 14, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 289

Introduced by Assembly Member Galgiani

February 13, 2009

An act to amend Section ~~3800~~ 21080.13 of the Public Resources Code, relating to ~~public resources~~ *environmental quality*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 289, as amended, Galgiani. ~~Public resources: geothermal resources: disposition. California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions.~~

Existing law, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment, as defined, or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect, unless the project is exempt from the act.

CEQA provides for various exemptions from the requirements of the act including an exemption for certain railroad grade separation projects.

This bill would specifically provide that this exemption includes grade separation projects that are a component of the California high-speed rail system.

~~Existing law allocates revenues, distributed to the state by the federal government, resulting from statutory activities of certain federal agencies with regard to the development of geothermal resources. The revenues are allocated for certain purposes, including, but not limited to, reduction~~

~~of dependence on fossil fuels, mitigation of certain adverse consequences of geothermal development, and maintenance of the productivity of renewable resources.~~

~~This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.

State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 21080.13 of the Public Resources Code
2 is amended to read:

3 21080.13. This division shall not apply to ~~any~~ a railroad grade
4 separation project ~~which~~ that eliminates an existing grade crossing
5 or ~~which~~ that reconstructs an existing grade separation, *including*
6 a grade separation project that meets these conditions and is a
7 component of the California high-speed rail system.

8 SECTION 1. ~~Section 3800 of the Public Resources Code is~~
9 amended to read:

10 3800. The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the allocation
11 of revenues distributed to the state pursuant to Section 35 of the
12 Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. Sec.
13 191), with respect to actions taken by the United States Bureau of
14 Land Management, the United States Forest Service, and other
15 federal agencies pursuant to the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970
16 (30 U.S.C. Sec. 1001 et seq.) in order to accomplish the following
17 general objectives:

18 (a) ~~Reduction of dependence on fossil fuels and stimulation of~~
19 the state's economy through development of geothermal resources.

20 (b) ~~Mitigation of the adverse social, economic, and~~
21 environmental impacts caused by geothermal development.

22 (c) ~~Financial assistance to cities, counties, and districts to offset~~
23 the costs of providing public services and facilities required by the
24 development of geothermal resources within their jurisdictions.

25 (d) ~~Maintenance of the productivity of renewable resources~~
26 through the investment of the proceeds of a depleting resource.

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